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Communications

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Subject: Flint Readout 06/08/16

[Bay City utility rate increases include fee for lead water pipe removal](#)

By Andrew Dodson, MLive.com, 06/08/2016 11:40 AM

Bay City residents may see a new fee on their water bill that'll fund the removal of about 5,000 lead service lines across the city. The fee, proposed in the 2016-2017 budget, is part of a package of utility rate increases that would increase water and sewer bills for the average customer by about \$7.95 per month, or more than \$95 for the year.

[Report: Fixing Flint's water could cost \\$216 million](#)

By Shawn Price, UPI.com, 06/08/2016, 2:43 AM

The projected cost to fix the contaminated water system in Flint, Mich., is far higher than previously expected, a new state report has found. The state-commissioned report from Flint-based engineering firm Rowe Professional Services lays out a multi-decade plan that is expected to cost at least \$216 million. The report calls for a vast replacement of the city's infrastructure which would cost at least triple what Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder proposed in his state budget.

Flint water bills set to double, residents will pick up check

By Staff, RT, 06/06/2016, 10:18 PM

The water crisis in Flint, Michigan isn't going away anytime soon, and it could prove costly for city residents. Water bills are set to double in the coming years and chlorine residual levels remain a problem. The hits keep on coming for Flint residents, and the cost of fixing the ongoing water crisis in the city will likely be far higher than previous projections, including the \$60 million estimate from Michigan Governor Rick Snyder or the \$55 million program called for by Flint Mayor Karen Weaver.

It's not just Flint: Here's why we ignore water pollution

By Nives Dolsak and Aseem Prakash, Washington Post, 06/08/2016, 11:00 AM

What do Flint, Mich., and Victoria, B.C., have in common? Huge water-quality problems that suddenly are getting some attention. Victoria, a tourist haven, promises visitors a beautiful harbor and glorious scenery on the west coast of Canada. However, the city recently announced plans to begin treating millions of gallons of raw sewage that discharge daily into the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Does my house use lead pipes? New map from DC Water offers answers

By Tajha Chappellet-Lanier, Technical.ly DC, 06/07/2016, 12:47 PM

Given the current national conversation about lead contamination in drinking water, you might find yourself wondering about your own water supply. DC Water has been doing its best to put D.C. residents at ease since the aftermath of the Flint water crisis. That's when Shawn McCoy, publisher of InsideSources, posted a story alleging the dangerous levels of lead in D.C.'s water based on a study from the early 2000s.

Is Flint Just the Tip of the Iceberg?

By Klaus Marre, WhoWhatWhy / RealNewsProject, 06/06/2016

Predictably and unfortunately, the Flint water crisis has all but disappeared from the headlines. There are just too many Trump tweets and Kardashian selfies that low-income families who are poisoned to death have to compete with. But the issue of lead-laced drinking water could soon come back roaring to the forefront of the news because what happened in Flint might just have been the beginning of a crisis that stretches well beyond Michigan.

Charlotte Water to expand testing for lead in drinking water

By Associated Press, appearing on WECT-TV6, 06/06/2016

The director of Charlotte Water says the utility will expand testing for lead in drinking water after the Flint, Michigan, crisis that exposed many homeowners there. The Charlotte Observer reports director Barry Gullet said the utility will expand testing and communication efforts with residents, partly in response to media coverage of Flint. Gullet told the city council's environment committee that the utility thinks it's important that its customers know that the city's drinking water is great.

Philadelphia Upbraided on Lead-in-Water Testing

By Gina Carrano, Courthouse News Service, 06/06/2016, 11:35 AM

Spurred to action by the crisis in Flint, Michigan, a Philadelphia woman says her city has allowed dangerous levels of lead to contaminate the water supply. Hoping to represent a class, Eleni Delopoulos filed suit Thursday in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, taking aim at Philadelphia's "deceptive, reckless and unethical" methods of testing water for potential lead exposure.

Flint, Michigan: facing more water issues

By Austin Hasenmueller, WIAT 42, 06/08/2016, 7:12 AM

The city of Flint, Michigan is facing more issues over its highly-publicized water crisis. The EPA says new equipment needs to be installed within a week at a Flint water treatment plant, but the city's mayor says they can't meet the deadline. Flint's mayor, Karen Weaver says they "don't want to move too quickly in getting the equipment ready". The new equipment will allow the city to boost chlorine levels to fight bacteria.

Official explains why Flint needs caution in adding chlorine to water supply

By Ron Fonger, MLive.com, 06/08/2016, 6:15 AM

Interim Flint Utilities Director JoLisa McDay said the city is moving forward to comply with a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requirement that the chemical feed equipment be installed and operational by Friday, June 10. But McDay said Flint should proceed with caution when it boosts chlorine in an aging water system that is prone to transmission line breaks and which was built to serve far more people than live here today.

Flint worried about water quality during warm months

By Jacob Carah, The Detroit News, 06/07/2016, 1:31 PM

Officials say an aged, oversized water distribution system continues to draw drinking-water quality concerns. Mayor Karen Weaver on Tuesday addressed a letter sent to the city late last week from the Environmental Protection Agency's Mark Pollins over whether there are proper chlorine levels throughout Flint's system.

Flint officials want more time before adding more chemicals to city water supply

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio, 06/07/2016

In the last few years, there has been a spike of Legionnaire's Disease cases in Genesee County, which may be connected to Flint's troubled water system.

NBA Players, Nonprofit Encourage Healthy Eating in Flint

By Alex Beall, Associations Now, 06/07/2016

The National Basketball Players Association and the FlintNOW Foundation have signed onto an initiative to help promote healthy eating to counteract lead exposure in Flint, Michigan. NBA players, a local nonprofit, a university, and a hospital are joining forces to get healthy food in the hands of Flint, Michigan, residents.

Other News

Diplomat CEO speaks on Flint water crisis

By Dominic Adams, MLive.com, 06/08/2016, 6:00 AM

The Flint water crisis has not hurt the bottom line for Diplomat Pharmacy but CEO and Chairman Phil Hagerman said there has still been an impact on the company.

Indigenous Americans Have Been Living Flint's Nightmare for Decades

By Rebecca McCray, TakePart, 06/07/2016

The Swain family's predicament is common among Canada's indigenous families, according to a report published by Human Rights Watch on Tuesday. In spite of living in one of the world's most water-rich regions, First Nations people living on reserves depend on water sources that are not regulated or protected by Canada's government. That means the available water is often contaminated, inaccessible, and degraded, leaving communities at risk of cancer, skin infections, and gastrointestinal disorders.

CDC: Water system management key to curbing rise in Legionnaires'

By Lisa Schnirring, CIDRAP, 06/07/2016

Legionnaires' disease cases have quadrupled since 2000, marked by recent high-profile outbreaks in New York City, Illinois, and Michigan, but most are preventable with simple steps by building owners and managers, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said today in a Vital Signs report. At a media briefing, CDC Director Tom Frieden, MD, MPH, said the reason for the steep rise is probably a combination of factors that include aging building water systems, an aging population that is more susceptible to the disease, and better diagnostic tools and reporting.

Pankow students test water, host science fair

By Nicole Tuttle, The Macomb Daily, 06/07/2016, 3:57 PM

With the Flint water crisis making national headlines, Macomb County educators have been using the events there as both current events and science lessons. In the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools, teacher Rhonda Diliberti decided to create a project to get her Math, Science and Technology students at the Frederick V. Pankow Center interested in testing the waters in more ways than one.

How One Father Is Fighting To Save His Family And Community In Flint

By John Haltiwanger, Elite Daily, 06/07/2016, 12:05 PM

Aaron Dunigan, a 30-year-old father and minister in Flint, Michigan, has been directly impacted by the ongoing water crisis in the city. His 2-year-old daughter is one of the more than 8,000 children under the age of 6 in the city exposed to lead, which has particularly serious health consequences for children. She's spent every Christmas of her life in a hospital because of disastrous decisions made by Michigan's government.

Toddlers use Flint water crisis to bring about beauty in unique art project

By Sydney Smith, MLive.com, 06/06/2016, 6:49 PM

Flint's newest breakthrough artists are getting national attention for a recent piece inspired by the Flint water crisis. And if they seem temperamental, keep in mind they have to fit their art into a busy schedule that includes naps, snack time and blocks.

What You Need To Know About The Racist Roots Behind The Flint Water Crisis

By Michael Starr Hopkins, Elite Daily, 06/06/2016, 11:47 AM

It seems obvious to say that what happened in Flint, Michigan was about race and economic inequality, but it was — and still is — about these issues. We all know it. The citizens of Flint, Michigan were allowed to unknowingly drink, cook and bathe with water that was contaminated with lead and other toxins, while the Governor of Michigan and his administration idly sat by.

Big Govt Can't Get Flint Water Right

By Donald Devine, Newsmax, 06/06/2016, 10:48 AM

Remote Flint Michigan was one of the pioneers with its modern lead pipes installed in the early 20th century sending fresh water into every city home. One hundred years later President Barack Obama himself rushed to the city to apologize for the high lead levels in its drinking water. The deteriorated water quality was originally traced to April 2014 when the Flint City Council switched its water supply from Lake Huron to the closer and more reliable Flint River and complaints about water quality appeared soon thereafter, even though all of the necessary higher-level approvals were obtained.